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Order 2000-7-5

Served: July 11, 2000

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Issued by the Department of Transportation  
on the 6th day of July, 2000

In the matter of the revocation of the interstate scheduled  
passenger certificate of

**AIRTRAN AIRLINES, INC.**

pursuant to section 204.7 of the Department's Aviation  
Regulations

**DOCKET OST-1997-3040-3**

**ORDER REVOKING CERTIFICATE**

By Order 93-10-23, issued October 13, 1993, the Department found ValuJet Airlines, Inc. (ValuJet) fit and issued it a certificate authorizing it to engage in interstate scheduled passenger air transportation.<sup>1</sup>

In the Fall of 1997, ValuJet, Inc., the parent company of the ValuJet, acquired Airways Corporation, the parent company of AirTran Airways, Inc., another certificated air carrier also authorized to engage in interstate scheduled air transportation.<sup>2</sup> In October 1997, ValuJet requested that the Department reissue its certificate to reflect a change in the carrier's corporate name to AirTran Airlines, Inc.<sup>3</sup> Thereafter, the operations of the two separate airlines--AirTran Airlines and AirTran Airways--were merged. Since the merger, all air carrier operations have been conducted by AirTran Airways under its certificate authority, rendering AirTran Airlines' redundant certificate dormant.

Section 204.7 of our rules (14 CFR 204.7) provides, among other things, for the revocation of dormant certificate authority. By letters dated June 26, 1998, February 8, 1999, and February 16, 2000, we reminded AirTran Airlines of the provisions of section 204.7 and stated our intent to revoke AirTran Airlines' redundant certificate. We have received no objection to our proposed action from AirTran Airlines.<sup>4</sup> Under these circumstances, we have decided to

<sup>1</sup> The authority granted in that order became effective on October 22, 1993 (see Order 93-10-43, issued October 26, 1993).

<sup>2</sup> See Order 94-11-19, issued November 30, 1994.

<sup>3</sup> By Order 97-11-28, issued November 17, 1997, the Department granted ValuJet's request.

<sup>4</sup> We also note that AirTran Airlines previously surrendered its Federal Aviation Administration operating authority to that agency.

revoke, without prejudice, the dormant certificate held by *AirTran Airlines*. We emphasize here that this action has no impact on the status of the certificate held by *AirTran Airways*. As we noted earlier, *AirTran Airways* continues to conduct air carrier operations under that certificate.

**ACCORDINGLY,**

1. We revoke the interstate scheduled passenger certificate issued to *AirTran Airlines, Inc.*, by Order 97-11-28.
2. We will serve a copy of this order on the persons listed in Attachment A to this order.

By:

**RANDALL D. BENNETT**  
Acting Director  
Office of Aviation Analysis

(SEAL)

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